

CCRB INVESTIGATIVE RECOMMENDATION

Investigator: Caroline Moses	Team: Squad #13	CCRB Case #: 201907778	<input type="checkbox"/> Force	<input type="checkbox"/> Discourt.	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S.
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Abuse	<input type="checkbox"/> O.L.	<input type="checkbox"/> Injury
Incident Date(s) Tuesday, 08/06/2019 7:44 PM	Location of Incident: Northeast corner of Cleveland Street and Pitkin Avenue	Precinct: 75	18 Mo. SOL 2/6/2021	EO SOL 9/23/2021	
Date/Time CV Reported Fri, 08/30/2019 7:57 PM	CV Reported At: CCRB	How CV Reported: On-line website	Date/Time Received at CCRB Fri, 08/30/2019 7:57 PM		

Complainant/Victim	Type	Home Address

Subject Officer(s)	Shield	TaxID	Command
1. POM Craig Wright	30425	939715	075 PCT

Witness Officer(s)	Shield No	Tax No	Cmd Name
1. LT Forrest Hirsch	00000	941905	075 PCT
2. POM Lalchan Singh	31887	955499	075 PCT
3. POM Anthony Datnarain	17055	957515	075 PCT
4. POM Yutaro Kotake	00452	959737	075 PCT
5. POF Kristina Lopez	19668	958832	075 PCT
6. POM Joshua Navarro	16066	957891	075 PCT
7. POM Brandon Gentz	09505	961785	075 PCT
8. POM Michael Miller	31869	967207	075 PCT

Officer(s)	Allegation	Investigator Recommendation
A.POM Craig Wright	Abuse: Police Officer Craig Wright interfered with § 87(2)(b)'s use of a recording device.	
B.POM Craig Wright	Abuse: Police Officer Craig Wright failed to provide § 87(2)(b) with a business card.	

Case Summary

On August 30, 2019, § 87(2)(b) filed this complaint via the CCRB's website.

On August 6, 2019, at approximately 7:44 p.m., at the corner of Cleveland Street and Pitkin Avenue in Brooklyn, § 87(2)(b) was riding his bicycle when he was stopped by Police Officer Craig Wright of the 75th Precinct. PO Wright ordered § 87(2)(b) to provide his identification. § 87(2)(b) refused and began recording the incident on his phone. PO Wright allegedly ignored § 87(2)(b)'s repeated requests for a business card (**Allegation A: Abuse of Authority**, § 87(2)(g)) and allegedly took his phone to prevent him from recording (**Allegation B: Abuse of Authority**, § 87(2)(g)). § 87(2)(b) was arrested for § 87(2)(a) 160.50.

§ 87(2)(b) [§§ 86(1)(3)&(4)] [§ 87(2)(c)]

Body-worn camera footage of this incident was provided to the CCRB by the NYPD and is located in IAs #75-76, IAs #78-84, and IA #93 (Board Review 04, 09-17) and summarized in IAs #89 and #94 (Board Review 18-19).

Findings and Recommendations

Allegation (A) Abuse of Authority: Police Officer Craig Wright interfered with § 87(2)(b)'s use of a recording device.

It is undisputed that PO Wright stopped § 87(2)(b) on his bicycle. § 87(2)(b) began recording the interaction on a cell phone. As § 87(2)(b) was being placed in handcuffs, his phone was removed from his hand. § 87(2)(b) alleged that PO Wright took his phone in an attempt to prevent him from recording the incident any further (Board Review 01).

PO Wright's body-worn camera footage (Board Review 04) shows § 87(2)(b) holding his cell phone during his initial conversation with PO Wright and other officers who arrive (beginning at the 0:40 timestamp at the bottom of the video window). PO Wright repeatedly orders § 87(2)(b) to provide his identification. § 87(2)(b) refuses and asks PO Wright for PO Wright's identification and for his "oath of office." PO Wright requests backup. Several officers respond and assist PO Wright in handcuffing § 87(2)(b). At 3:15, PO Wright says, "Here, hold his phone," and hands something not visible to another officer out of frame. The body-worn camera footage does not capture the actual act of § 87(2)(b)'s cell phone being removed from his hand.

PO Wright said that § 87(2)(b)'s phone was taken from him by the officers who placed him in handcuffs because he was being placed under arrest and as such was not allowed to hold the phone while rear handcuffed and in police custody (Board Review 02). PO Wright made no attempts to prevent § 87(2)(b) from recording the incident.

NYPD Patrol Guide, Procedure 208.03 states that police officers may temporarily remove property from someone's possession and voucher it for safekeeping while they are under arrest (Board Review 03).

§ 87(2)(g)

Allegation (B) Abuse of Authority: Police Officer Craig Wright refused to provide § 87(2)(b) with a business card.

It is undisputed that PO Wright did not provide § 87(2)(b) with a Right To Know Act business card.

§ 87(2)(b) said he asked PO Wright for his business card at least twice and up to seven times, along with requesting PO Wright's identification and his "oath of office."

PO Wright's body-worn camera footage shows § 87(2)(b) ask for PO Wright's business card three times while PO Wright is standing directly in front of § 87(2)(b) in clear earshot, and that § 87(2)(b) asks the crowd of officers that responded to the scene for their business cards once.

PO Wright initially denied that § 87(2)(b) asked for his business card during this incident. § 87(2)(b) continually asked for PO Wright's "oath of office," a term that PO Wright did not recognize. Upon review of his body-worn camera footage, PO Wright then acknowledged that § 87(2)(b) did in fact ask several times for PO Wright's business card. PO Wright did not provide an explanation as to why he did not provide § 87(2)(b) with a business card. PO Wright could not recall whether he had received training on the Right To Know Act.

According to NYC Administrative Code, Section 14-174 (Board Review 05), an officer shall provide a Right To Know Act card during a law enforcement activity when such information is requested, absent the exceptions listed in Section (e) (1)-(5).

§ 87(2)(g)

Civilian and Officer CCRB Histories

- § 87(2)(b)
- PO Wright has been a subject of 22 allegations in 12 prior complaints, none of which were substantiated. § 87(2)(g)

Mediation, Civil and Criminal Histories

- This case was not suitable for mediation.
- [§ 87(2)(b)] [§§ 86(1)(3)&(4)] [§ 87(2)(c)]
- As of September 19, 2019, § 87(2)(b) has not filed a Notice of Claim with the NYC Office of the Comptroller (Board Review 08).

Squad No.: _____

Investigator: _____
Signature Print Title & Name Date

Squad Leader: _____
Signature Print Title & Name Date

Reviewer:

Signature

Print Title & Name

Date